

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 21-24 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 17-20 have been canceled. New claims 21-24 have been added to more completely define the invention.

It is noted that the claims have been amended solely to more particularly point out Applicant's invention for the Examiner, and not for distinguishing over the prior art, narrowing the claim in view of the prior art, or for statutory requirements directed to patentability.

It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

Claims 1-3 and 5-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Camarda.

Claims 4 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Camarda.

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the discussion below.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

Applicant's invention, as defined for example in the non-limiting embodiment of independent claim 1 (and substantially similarly in independent claims 8 and 13) is directed to a programmable text processing module which loads the document and a parsing editor for initially parsing the document and thereafter incrementally parsing changes committed in the document.

A feature of the present invention, in a non-limiting embodiment is the automatic (e.g., without user intervention) setting or creation of activemarks which are linked to various commands in response to the parsing performed by the parsing editor (e.g. see page 2, lines 1-5 of the specification and the Abstract).

An exemplary configuration of an edit system incorporating the activemark structure of the present invention is shown in Fig. 1 of the application.

The conventional systems, such as those discussed below and in the Related Art section of the present application, do not have such a structure, and fail to provide for such an operation.

Indeed, such features are clearly not taught or suggested by the cited reference.

II. The 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, REJECTION

Regarding the informalities rejection of claims 6, 7, and 16-20, these claims have been amended in a manner believed fully responsive to all points raised by the Examiner.

It is noted that original claims 17-20 are believed to be in proper format. Applicant notes that claims 17-20 define a data storage medium which stores therein a program for performing a method, the method being defined by the recitations of claims 13-16, respectively. Thus, the data storage medium of claims 17-20 does not define a data storage medium in accordance with claims 13-16, respectively, but instead defines a data storage medium which incorporates a program for performing the method according to claims 13-16.

However, notwithstanding the above and to clarify these features for the Examiner, new claims 21-24 have been added making the above and the metes and bounds of the invention even more clear for the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

III. THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Examiner asserts that:

[regarding independent claim 1, Camarda teaches on page 27 that Microsoft Word 97 is a processing system for processing a document since it provides the means to "create, open, edit, and save Word documents". Camarda teaches features of Microsoft Word 97 that constitute a programmable text processing module, a parsing editor, a mark control module, a graphical user interface (GUI) module, and an edit control module, in multiple places in his

book.

For example, Camarda teaches the features of Auto Text on pages 203-215. Figure 7.7 on page 296 describes an edit control module for inserting Auto Text entries (which are examples of marks). The Auto Text Toolbar displayed in Figure 7.7 constitutes a GUI interface that provides a means for controlling the display of the document. This toolbar can be used to create, modify, and clear the marks created by this feature. Since, the Auto Text Toolbar allows the user to modify aspects of Auto Text entries, it constitutes an edit control module. The GUI module can be controlled via the Auto Text button, which is discussed on page 206. Indeed, it is stated that "The Auto Text button, which displays the Auto Text dialog box, where you can control all aspects of your collection of Auto Text entries". As the user is parsing the Word document, he/she can update the marks via the AUTOTEXTLIST fields described on page 213. These fields are the means of linking the Auto Text commands with portions of text.

Another feature taught by Camarda that anticipates this Claim is the Hyperlinking feature of Microsoft Word, which is taught on pages 521-530. This feature allows the user to place marks in the document edit them via a GUI. Part of the GUI is displayed in Figure 18.23 on page 526. Placing these activemarks in the document allows the user not only to access Web pages, but also to access other programs. As the document is parsed, these links can be entered. Figure 18.24 on page 528 displays the linking of portions of the text with commands.

With regard to independent claim 8 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein. In addition, the means for binding in the present claim is functionally equivalent to the linking of Claim 1. Therefore, the rationale used in the rejection of Claim 1 also applies to the present Claim.

However, Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Specifically, in the present invention, in response to the parsing editor activemarks are automatically set and created and linked to various commands. Independent claim 1 recites "a mark control module having means for setting a plurality of marks in the document, means for modifying said marks, and means for clearing said marks, and each of said marks comprising

selected information in the document and means for linking said selected information with a command, said linking means and said means for setting being responsive to the operation of said parsing editor without user intervention". Thus, in the present invention, the linking and setting of activemarks is automatic (e.g., without a user's intervention).

In contrast, Camarda nowhere teaches, describes nor suggests a programmable text processing module which, upon loading of a document, performs a parse of the document which is then used to set a plurality of marks in the document responsive parsing without user intervention. In distinct contrast to the present invention, Camarda neither teaches nor performs any parsing without user intervention. Rather, in Camarda, as admitted by the Examiner, the user is the parser.

Specifically, as asserted by the Examiner "[a]s the user is parsing the Word document, he/she can update the marks via the AUTOTEXTLIST fields described on page 213. These fields are the means of linking the AutoText commands with portions of text" (e.g., see page 4 of the Office Action). Further, in referring to a "Hyperlinking feature of Microsoft Word" the Examiner admits this feature "allows the user to place marks in the document (sic) edit them via a GUI" (e.g., see page 4 of the Office Action). Thus, as suggested by the Examiner, in Camarda the user is the parser.

Thus, turning to the clear language of the claims as defined by independent claim 1 (and substantially similarly by independent claims 8 and 13), Camarda does not teach or suggest "[a] processing system for processing a document, said processing system comprising:

a programmable text processing module having means for loading the document and a parsing editor for initially parsing the document and thereafter incrementally parsing changes committed in said document;

a mark control module having means for setting a plurality of marks in the document, means for modifying said marks, and means for clearing said marks, and each of said marks comprising selected information in the document and means for linking said selected information with a command, said linking means and said means for setting being responsive to the operation of said parsing editor without user intervention;

a graphical user interface module having means for displaying the document and means for controlling the display of the document; and

an edit control module having means for controlling said text processing module, means for controlling said mark control module, and means for controlling said graphical user interface module” (emphasis Applicant’s).

Thus, for the reasons stated above, independent claim 1 (and substantially similarly independent claims 8 and 13) are patentable over Camarda.

Additionally, dependent claims 2-3, 5-7, 9-12, and 14-15 when combined with independent claims 1, 8, and 13 respectively, define additional novel and non-obvious features.

Further, new claims 21-24 when combined with their respective independent claims have substantially similar novel and non-obvious features.

Further, regarding the rejection of claims 4 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Camarda, these claims when combined with independent claims 4 and 13 respectively, are also patentable. That is as discussed above Camarda does not teach or suggest “*said linking means and said means for setting being responsive to the operation of said parsing editor without user intervention”*, as defined by dependent claims 4 and 16 in combination with independent claims 1 and 8.

Further the other references have been reviewed and even in combination with Camarda also do not teach or suggest the present invention.

IV. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-16 and 21-24, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

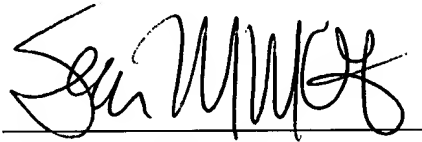
09/291,147
CA9-98-011

9

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 11/1/02

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean M. McGinn", written over a horizontal line.

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.

Reg. No. 34,386

McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Rd. Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 17-20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1 1. (Amended) A processing system for processing a document, said processing system
2 comprising:

3 a programmable text processing module having means for loading the document and a
4 parsing editor for initially parsing the document and thereafter incrementally parsing changes
5 committed in said document;

6 a mark control module having means for setting a plurality of marks in the document,
7 means for modifying said marks, and means for clearing said marks, and each of said marks
8 comprising selected information in the document and means for linking said selected information
9 with a command, said linking means and said means for setting being responsive to the operation
10 of said parsing editor without user intervention;

11 a graphical user interface module having means for displaying the document and means
12 for controlling the display of the document; and

13 an edit control module having means for controlling said text processing module, means
14 for controlling said mark control module, and means for controlling said graphical user interface
15 module.

6. (Amended) The processing system as claimed in claim [2] 1, wherein said linking means of
said mark control module includes means, responsive to inputs entered by a user through said
graphical user interface, for activating a command linked with said selected information.

7. (Amended) The processing system according to claim 6, wherein said [means for] linking
means selectively links any piece of text in the document with any of an editor command and

macro,

wherein such linking is unspecified in the document loaded in the parsing editor, and
wherein said mark is set to a piece of text by at least one of said parsing editor and an
external command running in the edit system.

1 8. (Amended) In a document processing system having means for loading and storing a
2 document, a parsing editor for initially parsing the document and thereafter incrementally parsing
3 information entered in the document, and a graphical user interface for displaying the document,
4 a mechanism for creating an activemark comprising:

5 means for identifying selected information in the document; and

6 means for binding a command to said selected information, said means for binding and
7 said means for identifying being responsive to the operation of said parsing editor without user
8 intervention, and the activemark being created as said parsing editor parses the document.

1 13. (Amended) In a document processing system having means for loading and storing a
2 document, a parsing editor for initially parsing the document and thereafter incrementally parsing
3 information entered in the document, and a graphical user interface for displaying the document,
4 a method for generating marks in the document, said method comprising:

5 selecting information for a mark in the document;

6 linking said selected information to a command, said selecting information and said
7 linking operation being responsive to the parsing by the parsing editor without user intervention;
8 and

9 activating said mark in response to an activation input.

16. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, further including altering the appearance of
said [activemark] mark in the document in response to activation of said [activemark] mark.